

PATENT  
1560-0348P

IN THE U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

|            |                                   |           |          |
|------------|-----------------------------------|-----------|----------|
| Applicant: | Yasuhiro ISHII et al.             | Conf.:    | 9788     |
| Appl. No.: | 09/655,847                        | Group:    | 3682     |
| Filed:     | September 6, 2000                 | Examiner: | W. JOYCE |
| For:       | ELECTRIC POWER STEERING APPARATUS |           |          |

**LARGE ENTITY TRANSMITTAL FORM**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

December 1, 2004

Sir:

Transmitted herewith is an amendment in the above-identified application.

- ☐ The enclosed document is being transmitted via the Certificate of Mailing provisions of 37 C.F.R. § 1.8.
- ☐ The enclosed document is being transmitted via facsimile.

The fee has been calculated as shown below:

|   | CLAIMS<br>REMAINING<br>AFTER<br>AMENDMENT |   | HIGHEST<br>NUMBER<br>PREVIOUSLY<br>PAID FOR |   | PRESENT<br>EXTRA | RATE  | ADDITIONAL<br>FEE |
|---|---|---|---|---|------------------|-------|-------------------|
| TOTAL   | 12  | - | 20  | = | 0                | \$ 18 | \$0.00            |
| INDEPENDENT   | 3   | - | 3   | = | 0                | \$ 88 | \$0.00            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> FIRST PRESENTATION OF A MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIM |   |   |   |   |                  | \$300 | \$0.00            |
|   |   |   |   |   |                  | TOTAL | \$0.00            |

said worm shaft is supported in a gear housing having a tapped hole, and said biasing member includes a screw body which is tightly fastened in said tapped hole and which is in contact with said worm shaft or a bearing fitted to said worm shaft.

5. (Withdrawn) An electric power steering apparatus, comprising:

an electric motor for steering assistance;

a worm shaft on which a worm is disposed;

a steering shaft on which a worm wheel is disposed and to which a rotary motion of said electric motor is transmitted through said worm shaft; and

a biasing member biasing said worm wheel deflectable toward said worm shaft, in a deflective direction of said worm wheel.

6. (Withdrawn) The electric power steering apparatus of claim 5, wherein

said worm wheel is fitted to said steering shaft, and said biasing member includes an elastic ring fitted to a fit portion of said worm wheel to said steering shaft.

7. (Currently Amended) An electric power steering apparatus, comprising:

an electric motor for steering assistance;

a worm shaft on which a worm is disposed;  
a steering shaft, configured to engage a steering wheel, on  
which a worm wheel is disposed and to which a rotary motion of said  
electric motor is transmitted through said worm shaft;  
a biasing member biasing, via a bearing, said worm shaft  
toward said worm wheel;  
a concave member accepting said bearing; and  
a housing for housing said bearing and said concave member,  
wherein the biasing member is movably acceptable only toward the  
concave member.

8. (Canceled).

9. (Currently Amended) An electric power steering apparatus,  
comprising:

an electric motor for steering assistance;  
a worm shaft on which a worm is disposed;  
a steering shaft, configured to engage a steering wheel, on  
which a worm wheel is disposed and to which a rotary motion of said  
electric motor is transmitted through said worm shaft;  
a biasing member biasing, via a bearing, said worm shaft  
toward said worm wheel, wherein a housing that directly holds the  
bearing is the same housing that holds the biasing member; and